

More than 150 were thus arrested last night, and in the course of this day of these about 50 were found to be, or successfully pretended to be, "whigs" and were thereupon discharged. We are confidently assured by one who is privy to the facts, which we feel it to be our duty to divulge, that upwards of ONE HUNDRED DEMOCRATIC VOTERS, who are guilty of no offence whatever, are at this moment kept in places of detention, without the knowledge of the Justices of the Lower Police, although it is believed that one, at least of the two federal magistrates of the upper police, are privy to this revolting outrage upon the rights of the citizen. In the supposed enjoyment of the fair administration and equal protection of the laws, our fellow citizens will naturally exclaim—"CAN THIS BE POSSIBLE?" We answer that IT IS TRUE!—The whole vile gang of our federal authorities are corrupt and unscrupulous, and are as closely leagued a band of political desperadoes as the ruffians whom they employ.

An intimation of this design was given in the Gazette of this morning, in the following words:

"All persons guilty of disturbing the peace at the polls, will be forthwith sent to prison as a PUNISHMENT, not to the police office to be discharged by Justice Bloodgood, as was done by him at the last election."

Thus this federal print unblushingly announces the fact that American citizens are to be punished with imprisonment without trial and without examination before a magistrate, at the mere TYRANNICAL WILL of AARON CLARK and his hired myrmidons!

Fellow citizens!—Is this appalling violation of the rights of the American people to be permitted? You behold it openly avowed in a federal print, and it has been practiced to the extent we have stated, at least, and probably far beyond. We call upon our police magistrate instantly to release all persons who are confined upon charges that have not been laid before them, and to use their utmost exertions to defeat the SECRET FEDERAL INQUISITION.

## SOUTHERN MARKSMAN CLINTON, MISS.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1838.

We are authorised to announce E. S. CRAWFORD, of this place, as a candidate for the office of Probate Clerk of Hinds County.

AMOS R. JOHNSON is a candidate for the office of clerk of the circuit court of Hinds county, at the next regular election.

We are authorised to announce GREEN E. BEAUCHAMP as a candidate for Clerk of the Circuit Court of Hinds County, at the next general election.

SPECTRUM No. 3 has been handed in for publication, but we decline to do so, because we think it too severe. It certainly is the most caustic, biting and withering reply we ever recollect to have read. He separates bone and marrow with an unsparing hand. We advise Mr. Ghost and Spectrum not to be so severe hereafter, if they desire us to publish the bantings of their leisure moments.

We have received five dollars from the following gentlemen, this week, for one year's subscription to the "Southern Marksman":—

Cen. C. Mead, G. R. Fall, James Speed, Dr. Kelly, P. W. Loe, D. T. Williams, J. Roach, C. B. Green, James Waddle, and S. N. West.

One or two of our subscribers sent us Brandon money. We will merely say, for the information of our patrons, that we cannot take any more of it, or any other depreciated money, of lower value than the river banks.

We prepared more editorial this week than we can put in our paper, owing to the great length of the President's message, a part of which we publish to-day. It is a document written in the same happy, clear and lucid style that characterize all the State papers which emanate from that high source. We shall speak more in detail of the Message in our next number.

By referring to our columns our readers will perceive that the Banks of the city of Natchez, and the Commercial and Railroad Bank of Vicksburg, have determined to resume specie payments on the first of January next. We congratulate our citizens on this important event—an event which affects the interests of every man in this community. The comparative ease with which this very desirable arrangement will have been effected, forms a strong contrast to the disastrous scenes of 1819, and must, we think, forever put to rest the alleged necessity of a great regulator. The majority of the State Banks to resume specie payments without the aid of a National Bank, formed one of the strongest arguments in favor of such an institution; but if we examine the proceedings of the Banks for the last twelve months, we shall find

that the "commissions" which have already taken place, have been effected, not by the aid, but in spite of Mr. Biddle's institution. It is well known that the Banks of New York were threatened with Mr. Biddle's displeasure for attempting to resume in May last, and it may be well questioned whether the "Regulator" would now be a specie paying bank, but for Governor Ritner's proclamation. A close observation of the events of the last year has strengthened our conviction that there is no necessity for a violation of the constitution by the charter of a National Bank, and that the people of the respective States best understand their own affairs, and are fully competent to the management of them, and we sincerely hope that the people of this State will be ever ready to resist any foreign interference with her domestic institutions.

### THE ELECTIONS.

The elections in Copiah, Yazoo and Monroe will take place on the first and second of January, to fill vacancies occasioned by the resignation of Democrats in those counties. We believe that the same gentlemen that resigned are candidates for a reelection.

DEMOCRATS TO ARMS! TO ARMS! flock to the polls in one solid phalanx and cast your votes on the side of equal rights and privileges! You have a wily foe to contend against, and nothing will be left undone by the federal whigs to carry their point. It remains now for you to say whether you will permit a federal whig senator to be saddled upon you for the next six years or not. The parties are so nearly divided in the legislature, that upon you devolve the important question, whether Mississippi is to be misrepresented for the next six years or not. Democrats, we again urge you to the polls! to the polls! and do your duty as becomes freemen, in defending these great principles of democracy which we all love to honor and preserve.

The editor of the Southern Sun says:—"We have despatched the junior devil to Natchez with instructions to bring to our aid the dirtiest and most abandoned flatboatman that can be found 'under the hill.' So soon as our tutor gets here, and we submit ourself to his drill for a term of six months, we believe we shall venture a battle with the Marksman."

The pupil is worthy of his noble teacher.

## MESSAGE, OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, TO BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS.

DECEMBER 4th 1838.

Fellow citizens of the Senate, and House of Representatives:

I congratulate you on the favorable circumstances in the condition of our country, under which you reassemble for the performance of your official duties. Though the anticipations of an abundant harvest have not every where been realized, yet, on the whole, the labors of the husbandman are rewarded with a bountiful return; industry prospers in its various channels of business and enterprise; general health again prevails through our vast diversity of climate, nothing threatens, from abroad, the continuance of external peace; nor has any thing at home impaired the strength of those fraternal and domestic ties which constitute the only guaranty to the success and permanence of our happy Union, and which, formed in the hour of peril, have hitherto been honorably sustained through every vicissitude in our national affairs. These blessings, which evince the care and beneficence of Providence, call for our devout and fervent gratitude.

We have not less reason to be grateful for other bounties, bestowed by the same munificent hand, and more exclusively our own.

The present year closes the first half century of our federal institutions; and our system—differing from all others in the acknowledged, practical, and unlimited operation it has for so long a period given to the sovereignty of the people—has now been fairly tested by experience.

The constitution devised by our forefathers as the framework and bond of that system, then untried, has become a settled form of Government; not only preserving and protecting the great principles upon which it was founded, but well and fully promoting individual happiness and private interests. Though subject to change and entire revocation, whenever deemed inadequate to all these purposes, yet such is the wisdom of its construction, and so stable has been the public sentiment that it remains unaltered, except in matter of detail, comparatively unimportant. It has proved amply sufficient for the various emergencies incident to our condition as a nation. A formidable foreign war; agitating collisions between domestic, and in some respects, rival sovereignties; temptations to interfere in the intestine commotions of neighboring countries; the dangerous influences that arise in periods of excessive prosperity; and the anti-republican tendencies of associated wealth—these, with other trials not less formidable, have all been encountered, and thus far successfully resisted.

It was reserved for the American Union

to test the advantages of a Government dependent on the continual exercise of the popular will; and our experience has shown it to be as beneficial in practice as it is just in theory. Each successive change made in our local institutions has contributed to extend the right of suffrage, has increased the direct influence of the mass of the community, given greater freedom to individual exertion, and restricted, more and more, the power of Government; yet the intelligence, prudence, and patriotism of the people have kept pace with this augmented responsibility. In no country has education been so widely diffused. Domestic peace has nowhere so largely reigned. The close bonds of social intercourse have in no instance prevailed with such harmony over a space so vast. All forms of religion have united, for the first time, to diffuse charity and piety, because, for the first time in the history of nations, all have been totally untrammelled, and absolutely free. The deepest recesses of the wilderness have been penetrated; yet, instead of the rudeness in the social condition consequent upon such adventures elsewhere, numerous communities have sprung up already unrivalled in prosperity, general intelligence, internal tranquility, and the wisdom of their political institutions. Internal improvement, the fruit of individual enterprise, fostered by the protection of the states, has added new links to the confederation, and fresh rewards to provident industry. Doubtful questions of domestic policy have been quietly settled by mutual forbearance; and agriculture, commerce, and manufactures, minister to each other. Taxation and public debt, the burdens which bear so heavily upon all other countries, have pressed with comparative lightness upon us. Without one entangling alliance, our friendship is prized by every nation; and the rights of our citizens are every where respected, because they are known to be guarded by a united, sensitive and watchful people.

To this practical operation of our institutions, so evident and successful, we owe that increased attachment to them which is among the most cheering exhibitions of popular sentiment, and will prove their best security, in time to come, against foreign or domestic assault.

This review of the results of our institutions, for a half century, without exciting a spirit of vain exultation, should serve to impress upon us the great principles from which they have sprung; constant and direct supervision by the people over every public measure; strict forbearance on the part of the Government from exercising any doubtful or disputed powers; and a cautious abstention from all interference with concerns which properly belong, and are best left to State regulations and individual enterprise.

Full information of the state of our foreign affairs having been recently on two different occasions, submitted to Congress, I deem it necessary now to bring to your notice only such events as have subsequently occurred, or are of such importance as to require particular attention.

The most amicable disposition continues to be exhibited by all the nations with whom the Government and citizens of the United States have an habitual intercourse. At the date of my last annual message, Mexico was the only nation which could not be included in so gratifying a reference to our foreign relations.

I am happy to be now able to inform you that an advance has been made towards the adjustment of our difficulties with that Republic, and the restoration of the customary good feeling between the two nations. This important change has been effected by conciliatory negotiations, that have resulted in the conclusion of a treaty between the two Governments, which, when ratified, will refer to the arbitrament of a friendly power all the subjects of controversy between us growing out of injuries to individuals. There is, at present, also, reason to believe that an equitable settlement of all disputed points will be attained without further difficulty or unnecessary delay, and thus authorize the free resumption of diplomatic intercourse with our sister Republic.

With respect to the northeastern boundary of the United States, no official correspondence between this Government and that of Great Britain, has passed since that communicated to Congress towards the close of their last session. The offer to negotiate a convention for the appointment of a joint commission of survey and exploration, I am, however, assured will be met by her majesty's government in a conciliatory and friendly spirit, and instructions to enable the British minister here to conclude such an arrangement will be transmitted to him without needless delay. It is hoped and expected that these instructions will be of a liberal character, and that this negotiation will prove to be an important step towards the satisfactory and final adjustment of the difficulty.

I had hoped that the respect for the laws and regard for the peace and honor of their own country, which has ever characterized the citizens of the United States, would have prevented any portion of them from using any means to promote insurrection in the territory of a power with which we are at peace, and with which the United States are desirous of maintaining the most friendly relations. I regret deeply, however, to be obliged to inform you that this has not been the case. Information has been given to me, derived from official and other sources, that many citizens of the United States have associated together to make hostile incursions from our territory into Canada, and to aid and abet insurrection there, in violation of the obligations and laws of the United States, and in open disregard

of their own duties as citizens. This information has been in part confirmed, by a hostile invasion actually made by citizens of the United States in conjunction with Canadians and others, and accompanied by a forcible seizure of the property of our citizens, and an application thereof to the prosecution of military operations against the authorities and people of Canada.

The results of these criminal assaults upon the peace and order of a neighboring country have been, as was to be expected, fatally destructive to the misguided or deluded persons engaged in them, and highly injurious to those in whose behalf they are professed to have been undertaken. The authorities in Canada, from intelligence received of such intended movements among our citizens, have felt themselves obliged to take precautionary measures against them; have actually embodied the militia, and assumed an attitude to repel the invasion to which they believed the Colonies were exposed from the United States. A state of feeling on both sides of the frontier has thus been produced, which called for prompt and vigorous interference. It is an insurrection existing in Canada, the amicable dispositions of the United States towards Great Britain, as well as their duty to themselves, would lead them to maintain a strict neutrality, and to restrain their citizens from all violations of the laws which have been passed for its enforcement. But this Government recognizes a still higher obligation to repress all attempts on the part of its citizens to disturb the peace of a country where order prevails, or has been reestablished. Depredations by our citizens upon nations at peace with the United States, or combinations for committing them, have at all times been regarded by the American Government and people with the greatest abhorrence. Military incursions by our citizens into countries so situated, and the commission of acts of violence on the members thereof, in order to effect a change in its Government, or under any pretext whatever, have from the commencement of our Government, been held equally criminal on the part of those engaged in them, and as much deserving of punishment as would be the disturbance of the public peace by the perpetration of similar acts within our own territory.

By no country or persons have these invaluable principles of international law—principles, the strict observance of which is so indispensable to the preservation of social order in the world—been more earnestly cherished or sacredly respected than by those great and good men who first declared, and finally established, the independence of our own country. They promulgated and maintained them at an early and critical period in our history; they were subsequently embodied in legislative enactments of a highly penal character, the faithful enforcement of which has hitherto been, and will, I trust, always continue to be, regarded as a duty inseparable associated with the maintenance of our national honor. That the people of the United States should feel an interest in the spread of political institutions as free as they regard their own to be, is natural; nor can a sincere solicitude for the success of all those who are, at any time, in good faith struggling for their acquisition, be imputed to our citizens as a crime. With the entire freedom of opinion, and an undisguised expression thereof, on their part, the Government has neither the right, nor, I trust, the disposition to interfere. But whether the interest or the honor of the United States require, that they should be made a party to any such struggle, and, by inevitable consequence, to the war which is waged in its support, is a question which by our constitution, is wisely left to Congress alone to decide. It is, by the laws, already made criminal in our citizens to embarrass or anticipate that decision, by unauthorized military operations on their part. Offences of this character, in addition to their criminality as violations of the laws of our country, have a direct tendency to draw down upon our own citizens at large the multiplied evils of a foreign war, and expose to injurious imputations the good faith and honor of the country. As such they deserve to be put down with promptitude and decision. I cannot be mistaken, I am confident, in counting on the cordial and general concurrence of our fellow citizens in this sentiment. A copy of the proclamation which I have felt it my duty to issue, is herewith communicated. I cannot but hope that the good sense and patriotism, the regard for the honor and reputation of their country, the respect for the laws which they have themselves enacted for their own government, and the love of order for which the mass of our people have been so long and so justly distinguished, will deter the comparatively few who are engaged in them from a further prosecution of such desperate enterprises. In the mean time, the existing laws have been, and will continue to be, faithfully executed; and every effort will be made to carry them out to their full extent. Whether they are sufficient or not, to meet the actual state of things on the Canadian frontier, it is for Congress to decide.

It will appear from the correspondence herewith submitted that the Government of Russia declines a renewal of the fourth article of the convention of April, 1824, between the United States and his Imperial Majesty, by the third article of which it is agreed that "hereafter there shall not be formed by the citizens of the United States, any establishment upon the north west coast of America, nor in any of the Islands adjacent, to the north of 54° 40' of north latitude; and that in the same manner there shall be none formed by Russian subjects, or under the authority of

Russia, south of the same parallel;"—and by the fourth article, "that, during a term of ten years, counting from the signature of the present convention, the ships of both powers, or which belong to their citizens or subjects respectively, may reciprocally frequent without any hindrance whatever, the interior seas, gulfs, harbors, and creeks, upon the coast mentioned in the preceding article for the purpose of fishing and trading with the natives of the country." The reasons assigned for declining to renew the provisions of this article are, briefly, that the only use made by our citizens of the privilege it secures to them, has been to supply the Indians with spirituous liquors, ammunition, and fire arms; that this traffic has been excluded from the Russian trade; and as the supplies furnished from the United States are injurious to the Russian establishments on the northwest coast, and calculated to produce complaints between the two Governments: His Imperial Majesty thinks it for the interest of both countries not to accede to the proposition made by the American Government for the renewal of the article last referred to.

The correspondence herewith communicated will show the grounds upon which we contend that the citizens of the United States have, independent of the provisions of the convention of 1824, a right to trade with the natives upon the coast in question, at unoccupied places, liable, however, it is admitted, to be at any time extinguished by the creation of Russian establishments at such points. This right is denied by the Russian Government, which asserts that, by the operation of the treaty of 1824, each party agreed to waive the general right to land on the vacant coast on their respective sides of the degree of latitude referred to, and accepted, in lieu thereof, the mutual privileges mentioned in the fourth article. The capital and tonnage employed by our citizens in their trade with the northwest coast of America, will, perhaps, on advertising to the official statements of the commerce and navigation of the United States for the last few years, be deemed inconsiderable in amount to attract much attention; yet the subject may, in other respects, deserve the careful consideration of Congress.

I regret to state that the blockade of the principal ports on the eastern coast of Mexico, which, in consequence of the difference between that Republic and France, was instituted in May last, unfortunately continues enforced by a competent French naval force, and is necessarily embarrassing to our own trade in the gulf, in common with that of other nations. Every disposition, however, is believed to exist on the part of the French Government, to render this measure as little onerous as practicable to the interests of the citizens of the United States, and to those of neutral commerce, and it is to be hoped that an early settlement of the difficulties between France and Mexico, will soon reestablish the harmonious relations formerly subsisting between them, and again open the ports of the Republic to the vessels of all friendly nations.

A convention for marking that part of the boundary between the United States and the Republic of Texas, which extend from the mouth of the Sabine to the Red river, was concluded and signed at the city on the 25th of April last. It has since been ratified by both Governments; and reasonable measures will be taken to carry it into effect on the part of the United States.

The application of their Republic for admission into the Union, made in August 1837, and which was declined for reasons already made known to you, has been formally withdrawn, as will appear from the accompanying copy of note of the Minister Plenipotentiary of Texas, which was presented to the Secretary of State on the occasion of the exchange of the ratifications of the convention above mentioned.

Copies of the convention with Texas, of a commercial treaty concluded with the King of Greece, and a similar treaty with the Peru-Bolivian Confederation, the ratifications of which have been recently exchanged, accompany this message for the information of Congress, and for such legislative enactments as may be found necessary or expedient, in relation to either of them.

To watch over and foster the interests of a gradually increasing and widely extended commerce; to guard the rights of American citizens, whose business, or pleasure, or other motives may tempt to distant climes, and at the same time to cultivate those sentiments of mutual respect and good will which experience has proved so beneficial to international intercourse, the Government of the United States has deemed it expedient, from time to time, to establish diplomatic connections with different States, by the appointment of representatives to reside within their respective territories. I am gratified to be enabled to announce to you that, since the close of your last session, these relations have been opened under the happiest auspices with Austria and the Two Sicilies; that new nominations have been made in the respective missions of Russia, Brazil, Belgium, and Sweden, and Norway, in this country; and that a Minister Extraordinary has been received accredited to this Government from the Argentine Confederation.

An exposition of the fiscal affairs of the Government, and their condition for the past year, will be made to you by the Secretary of the Treasury.

The available balance in the Treasury, on the 1st of January next, is estimated at \$2,765,343. The receipts of the year, for customs and lands, will probably amount to \$20,655,598. These usual sources of revenue have been increased by an issue of Treasury notes, of which less than eight millions of dollars, including interest and principal, will be

outstanding at the end of the year, and by the sale of one of the bonds of the Bank of the United States, for \$2,251,871. The aggregate of means from these and other sources with the balance on hand on the first of January last, has been applied to the payment of appropriations by Congress. The whole expenditure for the year on their account, including the redemption of more than eight millions of Treasury notes, constitute an aggregate of about forty millions of dollars, and will still leave in the Treasury the balance before stated.

Nearly eight millions of dollars of Treasury notes are to be paid during the coming year, in addition to the ordinary appropriations for the support of Government. For both these purposes, the resources of the Treasury will undoubtedly be sufficient, if the charges upon it are not increased beyond the annual estimates. No excess, however, is likely to exist; nor can the postponed instalment of the surplus revenue be deposited with the states, nor any considerable appropriations beyond the estimates be made, without causing a deficiency in the treasury. The great caution, advisable at all times, of limiting appropriations to the wants of the public service, is rendered necessary at present by the prospective and rapid reduction of the Tariff; while vigilant jealousy, evidently excited among the people by the occurrences of the last few years, assures us that they expect from their representatives, and will sustain them in the exercise of, the most rigid economy.

Much can be effected by postponing appropriations not immediately required, for the ordinary public service, or for any pressing emergency; and much by reducing the expenditures where the entire and immediate accomplishment of the objects in view is not indispensable.

When we call to mind the recent and extreme embarrassments produced by excessive issues of bank paper, aggravated by the unforseen withdrawal of much foreign capital, and the inevitable derangement arising from the distribution of the surplus revenue among the States as required by Congress; and consider the heavy expenses incurred by the removal of Indian tribes; by the military operations in Florida; and on account of the unusually large appropriations made at the last two annual sessions of Congress for other objects; we have striking evidence in the present efficient state of our finances, of the abundant resources of the country to fulfill all its obligations. Nor is it less gratifying to find that the general business of the community deeply affected as it has been, is reviving with additional vigor, chastened by the lessons of the past, and animated by the hopes of the future. By the curtailment of paper issues; by curbing the sanguine and adventurous spirit of speculation; and by the honorable application of all available means to the fulfilment of obligations, confidence has been restored both at home and abroad, and ease and facility secured to all the operations of trade.

The agency of the Government in producing these results has been as efficient as its powers and means permitted. By withholding from the States the deposit of the fourth instalment, and leaving several millions at long credits with the banks, principally in one section of the country, and more immediately beneficial to it; and, at the same time, aiding the banks and commercial communities in other sections, by postponing the payment of bonds for duties to the amount of between four and five millions of dollars; by an issue of Treasury notes as means to enable the Government to meet the consequences of their indulgences, but affording, at the same time facilities for remittance and exchange; and by steadily declining to employ as general depositaries of the public revenue, or to receive the notes of all banks which refused to redeem them with specie; by these measures, aided by the favorable action of some of the banks, and by the support and co-operation of a large portion of the community, we have witnessed an early resumption of specie payments in our great commercial capital, promptly followed in almost every part of the United States. This result has been alike salutary to the true interests of agriculture, commerce, and manufactures; to public morals, respect for the laws, and that confidence between man and man which is so essential in all our social relations.

The contrast between the suspension of 1814 and that of 1837, is most striking. The short duration of the latter; the prompt restoration of business; the evident benefits resulting from an adherence by the Government to the constitutional standard of value, instead of sanctioning the suspension by the receipt of irredeemable paper; and the advantages derived from the large amount of specie introduced into the country previous to 1837, afford a valuable illustration of the true policy of the Government in such a crisis. Nor can the comparison fail to remove the impression that a national bank is necessary in such emergencies. Not only were specie payments resumed without its aid, but exchanges have also been more rapidly restored than when it existed; thereby showing that private capital, enterprise and prudence are fully adequate to these ends. On all these points experience seems to have confirmed the views heretofore submitted to Congress.

We have been saved the mortification of seeing the distresses of the community for the third time seized on to fasten upon the country so dangerous an institution; and we may also hope that the business of individuals will hereafter be relieved from the injurious effects of a continued agitation of that disturbing subject. The limited influence of a national bank in averting derangements in the exchanges of the country, or in compelling the resumption of